



AGRICULTURAL.

## Sheep Husbandry.

BY W. D. COLEMAN.

(Written for the Hartford Herald.)

Of the many branches of farming which engage the attention of the intelligent agriculturist, probably no one has been more neglected in the United States, and more especially in Kentucky, than Sheep Husbandry. And this is the more remarkable when we consider the important part which it plays in the commercial history of our country. While in Europe the demand for wool and other products of the sheep has stimulated the raising and management of the animal on the most scientific and economical basis, and the establishment in Australia, of immense flocking stations, in this country it is seldom that the farmer manifests more interest in our subject than is evidenced by the possession of a few scrubby animals, whose only recommendation is that they cost him nothing, and will probably continue to do so.

We propose, in this article, to give briefly, our views on the subject of Sheep Husbandry in a plain, unscientific form, merely pointing out that they are the results of practical experience and observation for twenty years.

We are of the opinion, after taking all things into consideration, that the Cotswold, as a pure breed, is the best adapted to this country, though we prefer them mixed with the Merino, as this gives what the Cotswold lacks in thickness of the coat and adds to the fineness of the wool, while the Cotswold has the advantage over other breeds in size and length of wool.

In confirmation of this we may state that the average weight of our wethers one year ago at shearing time (1st of May) was 122½ pounds and these were mixed as above suggested.

## HOUSING.

should be built on dry ground with apartments for the breeding ewes and for the weaned lambs. The house should be well drained, and in case of any dampness whatever the sheep should have plenty of dry bedding. In any case the litter should be removed once a week.

Our experience as to the form of house is that tight stables about six feet high, well ventilated above with small openings, and with a trough should be placed about two feet from the wall, perpendicular, with a broad plank for a bottom, inclined so as to bring the hay to the foot. This prevents the seed from getting in the wool. The slats of the rack should not be more than 2½ inches apart.

## FEEDING.

There is a great variety of opinion as to the best method of feeding, and as to what kind of food suits best, and without animadverting on the ideas of others we give our views. We feed corn, about two ears a day, shelled and put in the trough. If the sheep is healthy, and in good condition this grain is enough.

If not in good health, feed less corn and give a little branched or threshed oats, or the heads of sheep oats cut fine. Corn fodder is one of the worst foods that can be given to sheep in winter, as it renders them costive and has a tendency to make them feverish, which soon grows into a chronic disease with a dry, hard, cough, and the animal dwindles and dies or becomes worthless. We feed hay for roughness altogether, and let them have all they will eat. With this manner of feeding and housing we have shown as much as 10 pounds, 2 ounces the flock around.

## BREEDING.

The very best of animals should be kept for breeding. Never breed from an inferior animal, no matter how well bred, or you will soon ruin your flock. This holds good in ewes as well as in bucks. No ewe or buck is fit to breed from that has not a good constitution, and in order to have this they must be shaped right with a broad deep chest, ribbing out well from the top of the back, long in the body running square to the hind quarters, short in legs, with good bone. If they have not these points it is better to mutton them at once. As a proof of this take

the mares of the country in general, and there is not one in three that ought to be bred at all, yet every one that will bring a colt is bred. The best horses are selected for breeders, and still the country is flooded with worthless animals from these inferior mares.

The same thing holds good in all stock, and we may even go to the human race and find it there.

## GENERAL TREATMENT.

Special care should be taken to prevent the sheep from getting wet in winter. They should be kept in the house in wet weather. If they are allowed to get wet it takes the coat two or three days to dry, and in case of a change to sudden cold weather the animal is found to suffer, sometimes taking deep cold. Nor is this all. It requires a large amount of extra food to keep up the animal heat, and if this is not given, the animal soon gets low in flesh and that stops the growth of wool, and necessarily cuts down your profits.

Ewes that give a large quantity of milk should be milked once a day till the lamb is three or four days old. We always do this and never have a spoilt lamb.

Bucks should never be allowed to go to their own lambs, as our experience is that all in-bred animals soon become weak jointed and short lived. Bucks should not be allowed to go to more than 25 ewes and even in that case it would be best to feed about three pints of ground wheat or oats. When treated in this way your lambs will be strong and healthy at birth.

## Points in Corn Culture.

A corn grower in the corn state of Illinois makes the following points:

1st. In the fall and winter the ground should be plowed from eight to ten inches deep, but in the spring from four to six inches deep is enough. It does not pay to go down in search of a new farm at that time of the year.

2d. It does not pay to plow corn stalks under the ground unless the land is wet or liable to bake.

3d. Corn, drilled one stalk in a hill, does not grow so strong at first, and is harder to keep clean than if planted two or more together.

4th. Corn checked and plowed both ways is injured more by storms and drought than if drilled.

5th. Two stalks every two feet has proved the best with me.

6th. Corn that is well harrowed and plowed twice will be cleaner and grow better than if plowed three times without being harrowed.

We should be pleased to hear the views of our corn-growing readers on the cultivation of this important staple. It will be useful to compare ideas and methods of practice, and lessen the cost of a bushel of corn if possible.

## Twelve Rules for Successful Farming.

1. Drain thoroughly. 2. Plow deep and loosen the subsoil. 3. Provide good storage for solid manure. 4. Choose commercial fertilizers intelligently, and do not use one in excess of another simply because others have used it. 5. Manure every crop which benefits by it, and manure high. 6. Cultivate all safe, paying crops, and select the best seed for these. 7. Cultivate every crop upon your fields, in proper rotation. 8. Cultivate more and better hay. 9. Feed plentiful and of the best hay. 10. Breed stock, and not let mere accident control the increase. 11. Support breeding and feeding by proper care. 12. Keep accounts.

## Hearty Breakfasts.

In a large majority of cases, says Hall's Journal of Health, it will be found that the best and healthiest meal of the day should be eaten in the morning. If the closing repast of the day has not been eaten too late, or has not been excessive in quantity or indigestible in quality, the stomach will be rested and active in the morning after the individual has enjoyed a good bath. The stomach will then respond quickly with the necessary gastric juice for the solution of food, and, if a fair amount of exercise is taken during the day, a large mass of food will be assimilated and converted into blood and tissue. With a good, substantial breakfast, no great amount of food will be required during the remainder of the day.

## How to cure Scratches in Horses.

First cleanse the heels well from all dirt and other foreign matter with strong suds made by means of carbolic soap and warm water. This done, dry the parts well and be careful to remove all soapy water thoroughly from the sore in order to prevent the collection of dirt. Then dress the heels with a lotion composed of carbolic acid, one part; cold water, forty parts, three times a day. In one-quarter of an hour after using the

lotion, rub over the diseased surface with glycerine, and keep the parts supple with it. Give him, mixed in his feed grain, night and morning, one and a half ounces of liquor arsenicalis each time, and continue this treatment for a time after his heels have dried up.—Tuf, Fidd and Farm.

The Rev. A. B. Kendig says to the majahs: "To accept a challenge to fight a duel, or stand in the prize-ring, for pugilistic pummeling, is a courage of which the horned bovine and the snarling bull-dog are capable. But to see a strong and expose it, a fashionable sin and withstand it, a personal weakness and overcome it, a powerful temptation and resist it, is that high order of courage of which only the truest man is capable."

Mary Mordoch Mason divides her sex into three classes—the giddy butler, the busy bees and the woman's righters. The first are pretty and silly, the second plain and useful, the third mannish and odious. The first wear long, trailing dresses and smile at you while waltzing; the second wear aprons and give you apple-dumplings; and the third want your manly prerogatives, your dress coat, your money and your vote.

Advice to striking printers—keep "composed" but don't get "set up."

A patient lot of men—the job printers.

## RAILROAD TIME TABLE.

Louisville, Paducah & Southwestern. The down train for Paducah leaves Louisville, daily except Sunday at 8:45 a. m. and arrives at

Cecil Junction at	11:28 a. m.
Grayson Springs at	12:50 p. m.
Leitchfield at	1:03
Millwood at	1:18
Beaver Dam at	2:53
Rockport at	3:20
Owensboro Junction at	3:53
Greenville at	4:05
Nortonville Junction at	5:40
Paducah at	9:00

The up train for Louisville leaves Paducah daily except Sunday at 6:45 a. m. and arrives at

Nortonville Junction at	10:25 a. m.
Greenville at	11:37
Owensboro Junction at	11:55
Rockport at	12:25
Beaver Dam at	12:55
Leitchfield at	2:53
Grayson Springs at	3:05
Big Clifty at	3:20
Cecil Junction at	4:00
Louisville at	6:20

Hartford is connected with the railroad at Beaver Dam by stage line once a day. These trains connect with Elizabethtown at Cecil Junction, with Owensboro at Owensboro Junction, and with Evansville, Henderson and Nashville at Nortonville.

D. F. WARDMAN, Superintendent.

Evansville, Owensboro & Nashville. The Mail and Accommodation trains are run by the following time-table:

MAIL.	
Leaves	Arrives.
Owensboro at	9:00 a. m.
Sutherland's at	9:58
Crow's at	9:46
Glen's at	9:58
Riley's at	10:10
Tichenor's at	10:22
Livermore at	10:31
Island at	10:45
Strand's at	10:58
S. Carrollton at	11:18
Owensboro Jun. at	11:30

## ACCOMMODATION.

Leaves	Arrives
Owensboro at	10:25 a. m.
Sutherland's at	2:10 p. m.
Crow's at	3:20
Glen's at	3:35
Riley's at	3:50
Tichenor's at	4:05
Livermore at	4:20
Island at	4:35
Strand's at	4:50
S. Carrollton at	5:24
L.P.A.S.W. Dep.	5:30

Trains run daily, Sundays excepted.

R. S. TRIPLETT, Gen'l Manager.

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Wagon Makers AND PLOW STOCKERS.

We do not like to blow our own trumpet so we have engaged our printer to do it for us. The likeness is strikingly, if not entirely accurate. It will be noticed that he is blowing very hard, so much so that the photographer became alarmed for his personal safety, fearing that the printer might burst asunder and demolish everything within range, but the printer assured him that he could not blow on Tracy & Son's work too hard. They could stand a great deal of wind, and in that he was right. If our work will not bear examination we would not want it talked about.

Does a Genuine Warm Water, in 2 oz. cans, either

ladies' or men's, for the new

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(also) of William Wallace, Esq.,

Editor, Louisville, Ky.,

with Thomas C. Clark, Esq.,

Editor, Louisville, Ky.,

and others, to examine and

publish, if desired, the

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